



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION BUREAU
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

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Title 49—Transportation

CHAPTER I—RESEARCH AND SPECIAL
PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION, DE-
PARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PART 178—SHIPPING CONTAINER
SPECIFICATIONS

[Docket No. HM-156; Amdt. No. 178-53]

Flattening Test Requirement for
Seamless Cylinders

AGENCY: Materials Transportation
Bureau, Research and Special Pro-
grams Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule amends the
regulations in Part 178 of Title 49,
Code of Federal Regulations, pertain-
ing to flattening tests by deleting the
requirement that certain seamless cyl-
inders be hydrostatically tested prior
to the flattening test and by requiring
that the longitudinal axis of the cylin-
der be perpendicular to the knife
edges during flattening testing. This
amendment allows flexibility as to
when the sample cylinder may be se-
lected, and assures uniformity in the
procedures used in performing the
flattening tests.

EFFECTIVE DATE: On January 29,
1979.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CONTACT:

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rials Regulation, Materials Trans-
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Programs Administration, 2100
Second Street S.W., Washington,
D.C. 20590 (202-426-2075).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
On January 19, 1978, the Materials
Transportation Bureau published a
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,
Docket HM-156, Notice 78-2 (43 FR
2741), which proposed these amend-
ments. The background and basis for
these amendments were discussed in
that notice. Interested persons were
invited to give their views prior to the
closing date of March 20, 1978. The
only comment received was in favor of
the rule change as proposed. The com-
menter also suggested that the word
"longitudinal" be included to clarify
the orientation of the cylinder to the
knife edges during testing, and the
suggestion has been adopted.

Analysis of the proposed amend-
ments and comment thereon indicate
that cost of regulatory enforcement
will not be significantly affected, nor

would additional costs be imposed on
the private sector, consumers, or Fed-
eral, State or local governments.

Primary drafters of this document
are Jose Pena, Technical Services
Branch, Office of Hazardous Materials
Regulation and Evan Braude, Office
of Chief Counsel, Research and Spe-
cial Programs Administration.

Since these amendments are relax-
ation of existing rules, and place no
additional burden on any person, they
are being made effective before Febru-
ary 28, 1979.

In consideration of the foregoing,
Part 178 of Title 49 of the Code of
Federal Regulations is amended as fol-
lows:

1. In § 178.36, § 178.36-15 is revised to
read as follows:

§ 178.36 Specification 3A; seamless steel
cylinders or 3AX; seamless steel cylin-
ders of capacity over 1,000 pounds
water volume.

§ 178.36-15 Flattening test.

Between knife edges, wedge shaped,
60-degree angle, rounded to 1/2-inch
radius; test 1 cylinder¹ taken at
random out of each lot of 200 or less
cylinders. Longitudinal axis of the cyl-
inder must be at approximately a 90-
degree angle to knife edges.

2. In § 178.37, § 178.37-15 is revised to
read as follows:

§ 178.37 Specification 3AA; seamless steel
cylinders made of definitely prescribed
steels or 3AAX; seamless steel cylinders
made of definitely prescribed steels of
capacity over 1,000 pounds water
volume.

§ 178.37-15 Flattening test.

Between knife edges, wedge shaped,
60-degree angle, rounded to 1/2-inch
radius; test 1 cylinder¹ taken at
random out of each lot of 200 or less
cylinders. Longitudinal axis of the cyl-
inder must be at approximately a 90-
degree angle to knife edges.

3. In § 178.44, § 178.44-17 is revised to
read as follows:

§ 178.44 Specification 3HT; inside contain-
ers, seamless steel cylinders for air-
craft use made of definitely prescribed
steel.

§ 178.14-17 Flattening test.

Between knife edges, wedge shaped, 60-degree angle, rounded to 1/2-inch radius; test 1 cylinder taken at random out of each lot of 200 or less cylinders. Longitudinal axis of the cylinder must be at approximately a 90-degree angle to knife edges.

(49 U.S.C. 1803, 1804, 1808; 49 CFR 1.53(e).)

NOTE.—The Materials Transportation Bureau has determined that this final amendment will not have a major economic impact under the terms of Executive Order 12044 and DOT implementing procedures (43 FR 9582). A regulatory evaluation is available for review in the docket.

Issued in Washington, D.C. on January 17, 1979.

L. D. SANTMAN,
*Director, Materials
Transportation Bureau.*

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